

SUBJECT: United Farm Workers et al.

FILE: 44-58258

FBI

Date: 8/13/73

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL \_\_\_\_\_  
(Priority)

To: Director, FBI

ATTENTION:

From: SAC, SACRAMENTO (44-NEW)

☒ CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION  
GENERAL INVEST. DIV.  
☐ INTELLIGENCE DIVISIONSubject: UNSUB, SERGEANT OF KERN  
COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE,  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA,  
8/1/73 OR 8/2/73;  
UNITED FARM WORKERS UNION,  
LAMONT, CALIFORNIA - VICTIM☒ CR ☐ EL ☐ DIH ☐ CRA-64  
☐ PA ☐ PE ☐ PF ☐ E  
☐ EID ☐ Bomb Threats ☐ Extremist Matters  
☐ White Hate ☐ Black

## Summary of Complaint:

[REDACTED] United Farm Workers (UFW), Keane, California, complained that an unrecalled UFW female picket saw an overseer of KOVACOVICH Ranch near Lamont, California, throw a rock and hit one of his own trucks. When unknown Sergeant of the Kern County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) was asked to arrest overseer or to permit citizens arrest by [REDACTED] he refused.

[REDACTED] also mentioned general lack of response by KCSO when UFW attempts to move police to act. Complains KCSO quick to act against UFW members.

REC-30

EX-103

44-58258-X  
44-0-2511  
3 AUG 16 1973

## ACTION: UACB:

- ☒ No further action being taken and  
☐ LHM enclosed ☐ Copy furnished to USA  
☐ FD-376 (enclosure to LHM)  
☒ LHM being submitted  
☐ Report being submitted  
☐ Preliminary investigation instituted  
☐ Limited investigation instituted

2 - Bureau  
2 - Sacramento  
CNS:jk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

JAN 22 1974 Special Agent in Charge

85

FBI

Date: 8/15/73

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (44-NEW) (C)

*JMC/RAA*  
 UNSUB; SERGEANT OF  
 KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE,  
 BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA,  
 8/1/73, OR 8/2/73;  
UNITED FARM WORKERS UNION,  
LAMONT, CALIFORNIA  
 CR

Re FD-365 from Sacramento, 8/13/73. *BN*

Enclosed are four copies of LHM concerning above matter.

44-58258-X1  
 Complaints re the Nalbandian incident of 7/31/73, mentioned by [REDACTED] in attached LHM, are (b)(7)(c) being reported under separate caption with [REDACTED] (b)(7)(c) and numerous others carried as victims, and with one of the subjects being Kern County Sheriff's Office. Another signed statement was prepared by [REDACTED] in (b)(7)(c) connection with that matter.

*EX-117*  
 ② - Bureau (Enc. 4)  
 1 - Sacramento  
 CWS:cas  
 (3)

0-70(H)T  
 CRD, 1-CRU  
 8-21-73  
 Tm G. L. Ste

*see file REC-151*  
*copy att'd*

44-6-25066  
14 AUG 17 1973

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

JAN 22 1974

Special Agent in Charge

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1972 - 455-574

86



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Sacramento, California

August 15, 1973

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNKNOWN SUBJECT;  
SERGEANT OF KERN COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE,  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA,  
AUGUST 1, 1973, OR  
AUGUST 2, 1973;  
UNITED FARM WORKERS UNION,  
LANONT, CALIFORNIA

On August 13, 1973, [REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)  
[REDACTED], United Farm Workers Union (UFW), Keene,  
California, appeared in the Federal Bureau of  
Investigation Office, Bakersfield, California, and  
furnished the following signed statement:

"Bakersfield, Calif.

August 13, 1973

"I, [REDACTED] make the following (b)(7)(c)  
voluntary statement to [REDACTED]  
Special Agent, F.B.I., Bakersfield, Calif.

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)

-----  
This document contains neither recommendations nor  
conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI  
and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are  
not to be distributed outside your agency.

44-58258-X1

~~44-26066~~

ENCLOSURE

87

UNKNOWN SUBJECT;  
SERGEANT OF KERN COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE,  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA,  
AUGUST 1, 1973, OR  
AUGUST 2, 1973;  
UNITED FARM WORKERS UNION,  
LAMONT, CALIFORNIA

"On either 8/1/73 or 8/2/73, I was present on a picket line consisting of 70 - 80 members of the United Farm Workers Union (UFW) on Wheeler Ridge Rd., about 200 feet south of David Rd. in the Lamont, Calif., area, at the Kovacovich Ranch. [REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)

[REDACTED] is an overseer of this ranch. This was at about 10<sup>00</sup> AM. A ranch truck was parked in a road leading into the grape vineyards facing & extending onto the shoulder of Wheeler Ridge Rd.

"I heard a thud which sounded like a rock hitting the side of the ranch truck. I did not see any objects of any kind coming from the direction of the picket lines. Then a member of UFW, an unrecalled woman, came around the front of this truck & told me she had seen [REDACTED] toss the rock. I (b)(7)(c) went to the other side of this truck with this woman & talked to a Kern County Sheriff's Office Sgt. & told him that the rock had been thrown by [REDACTED] Both the (b)(7)(c) woman & myself request the Sgt. to arrest [REDACTED] but he refused. He asked why no (b)(7)(c) arrest would be made & the Sgt. said the

UNKNOWN SUBJECT;  
SERGEANT OF KERN COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE,  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA,  
AUGUST 1, 1973, OR  
AUGUST 2, 1973;  
UNITED FARM WORKERS UNION,  
LANOFT, CALIFORNIA

woman had not seen [REDACTED] throw the rock, (b)(7)(c)  
further stating that he did not believe  
the woman. I specifically asked the Sgt.  
if we could make a citizens' arrest & he  
said we could not. I knew that we could  
not go into the fields without permission.

"In my six weeks' experience on the  
picket lines, on numerous occasions I  
have seen the police arrest people for  
misdemeanors not committed in their  
presence, after the alleged wrongdoer  
was pointed out by a rancher, private  
guard, or Teamster -- the arrest of a  
photographer at Vernon's -- fingered by a  
guard at Vernon's -- leaps to mind. On the  
other hand, I have attempted to move the  
police to actions on half-a-dozen occasions --  
with zero success.

"At this point, let me reemphasize my  
observatin on the Nelbaudian incident of  
July 31 -- see my declaration -- that the  
police made no arrests of Teamsters who  
attacked us, but on the contrary hauled  
away the victims -- typical of the unequal

UNKNOWN SUBJECT;  
SERGEANT OF KERN COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE,  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA,  
AUGUST 1, 1973, OR  
AUGUST 2, 1973;  
UNITED FARM WORKERS UNION,  
LANOLT, CALIFORNIA

and racist treatment the UFW has been  
subjected to by the Sheriff's department of  
Kern County.

"I have read this statement consisting  
of this & two other pages and find it true  
and correct.

"/s/ [REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)

"August 13, 1973 Bakersfield, California

"Witnessed:

/s/ [REDACTED] Special Agent, F.B.I. (b)(7)(c)  
Bakersfield, Calif., 8/13/73."

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

*Memorandum*

TO : Assistant Attorney General

DATE: August 21, 1973

FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;

SERGEANT OF KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE,  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA,  
AUGUST 1, 1973 OR AUGUST 2, 1973;  
UNITED FARM WORKERS UNION, LAMONT, CALIFORNIA  
CIVIL RIGHTS

Reference is made to \_\_\_\_\_ memorandum dated \_\_\_\_\_  
(your file \_\_\_\_\_).

There is enclosed one copy of the report of Special Agent \_\_\_\_\_ an LHM  
dated 8/15/73 at Sacramento, California.

A. ☐ This covers the preliminary investigation and no further action concerning a full investigation will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

B. ☐ The investigation is continuing and you will be furnished copies of reports as they are received.

C. ☐ The investigation requested by you has now been completed. Unless advised to the contrary no further inquiries will be made by this Bureau.

D. ☐ Pursuant to instructions issued by the Department, no investigation will be conducted in this matter unless specifically directed by the Department.

E. ☐ Please advise whether you desire any further investigation.

F. ☐ This is submitted for your information and you will be advised of further developments.

G. ☐ This is submitted for your information and no further investigation will be conducted unless specifically requested by the Department.

H. ☒ This covers the receipt of a complaint and no further action will be taken by this Bureau unless the Department so directs.

Enc. 1

**NOTE:** The "Halbaudian incident" referred to by [REDACTED] in the attached memorandum is being reported under a separate caption.

(b)(7)(c)

91



Airtel

10/19/73

To: SAC, Sacramento (44-New)

1 - Mr. Gardner

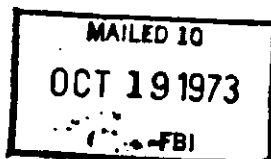
From: Director, FBI

UNSUB, SERGEANT OF KERN  
COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE,  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA,  
8/1/73 OR 8/2/73;  
UNITED FARM WORKERS UNION,  
LAMONT, CALIFORNIA - VICTIM

CR

Reurairtel 8/13/73.

SuLHM status investigation in this matter.



Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_  
Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_  
Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

TMG:jfh  
(4)

REC-6

REC 45

ST-111

58258-1

5 OCT 23 1973

JAN 22 1974

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

92

FBI

Date: 10/23/73

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL  
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
 FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (44-562) (C)  
 SUBJECT: UNSUB; SERGEANT OF KERN  
 COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE,  
 BAKERSFIELD, CA.,  
 8/1/73 or 8/2/73;  
 UNITED FARM WORKERS UNION,  
 LAMONT, CA., - VICTIM  
 CR

*44-562-1012*  
*United Farm Workers of America*  
*Reurairtel 10/19/73*

LHM submitted with cover airtel dated 8/15/73,  
 and case in closed status.

② - Bureau  
 1 - Sacramento (44-562)

TPR:lat  
 (3)

*WCK*  
**MCT-9**

*44-58258-*  
**NOT RECORDED**  
 16 OCT 25 1973

*MOORE*  
*9/23*

Approved: *56 NOV 6 1973* Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1972 - 455-574

*93*

SUBJECT: United Farm Workers et al.

FILE: 44-59048

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : The Director

DATE: 8/24/73

FROM : D.W. Bowers

SUBJECT: ~~UNITED FOOD WORKER AND TEAMSTERS UNION~~  
~~CONSTITUTIONAL IN KERN COUNTY CALIFORNIA~~  
CONGRESSMAN DON EDWARDS (D.-CALIF.)  
COMPLAINTS RE HANDLING OF CIVIL RIGHTS CASES  
IN KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Assoc. Dir. ☒  
Asst. Dir.:  
Admin. ☐  
Comp. Syst. ☐  
Files & Com. ☒  
Gen. Inv. ☒  
Ident. ☐  
Inspection ☐  
Intell. ☐  
Laboratory ☐  
& Eval. ☐  
Inv. ☐  
Training ☐  
Legal Coun. ☒  
Cong. & Public Aff. ☒  
Rec. Mgmt. ☐  
Tech. Serv. ☐  
Telephone Rm. ☐  
Director Sec'y ☐

Late on 8/23/73, Jerome Zeifman, Chief Counsel of the House Committee on Judiciary, called to advise me of a telephone conversation he had just had with Congressman Edwards. He said Edwards is currently in California and has spent considerable time in the Kern County area where there is a great deal of unrest in connection with labor activities involving grape pickers. Several individuals have been killed or injured during this labor unrest.

Zeifman said that Edwards is very concerned that the investigations of this situation are not being handled properly. He said Edwards specifically expressed his concern that the publicly stated policy of former Acting Director Gray to the effect that outside Agents would be sent in to handle civil rights cases is not being followed in this instance. He said Edwards feels a number of Agents should be sent into the area from other FBI offices and that they specifically should be Agents with Spanish speaking ability. He said Edwards had commented that he recently had some contact with the Phoenix FBI Office and had been highly impressed with the competency of the number of Spanish speaking Agents available there.

Zeifman advised Edwards has visited the FBI Resident Agency office in the area where this labor problem is centered expressing his concern over these cases and also has communicated directly with the Department of Justice about this matter. He said Edwards feels his expressions of concern have not generated the proper response and Edwards is now suggesting that he be allowed to convene his Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Constitutional Rights of the House Committee on Judiciary to conduct hearings in California concerning the handling of these cases. Zeifman said at Edwards' request he has discussed this matter with Pat McSweeney, Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Legislative Affairs in the absence of Assistant Attorney General Mike McKevitt, and that he expects a response from McSweeney. Zeifman said he was merely advising me so that the FBI would be aware of this situation.

- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Gebhardt
- 1 - Mr. McGowan
- 1 - Mr. Herington
- 1 - Mr. Bowers

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-25-82 BY EX-103 SP 300/9a

(CONTINUED-OVER)

JAN 17 1974

DWE:jo  
(8)

SEP 4 1973

PRINCE OF GEORGE

CONGRESSIONAL SERVICES

SIX

b7c

95

Bowers to the Director (cont'd.)  
Re: CONGRESSMAN DON EDWARDS  
HANDLING OF CIVIL RIGHTS CASES  
IN KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

I told Zeifman that I was aware that Edwards had visited the resident agency. I also told him that the adequacy of personnel in the area has been considered by officials both in the field and here in Washington. He was thanked for advising us of Edwards' comments.

This matter was discussed with McSweeney who stated Edwards has been constantly agitating regarding the Kern County situation. He advised that Senator Hubert Humphrey (D.-Minn.) also has gotten into the act and sent a telegram to the Attorney General urging that a large force of personnel be sent into the area to handle the unrest that has resulted from the labor dispute. McSweeney was advised that a week ago we had inquired of the Sacramento FBI Field Office regarding the adequacy of personnel to handle civil rights complaints growing out of this situation in Kern County and were assured that there are sufficient personnel in the area to take care of the matter, including Spanish speaking Agents. He was advised that we have experienced some delays in handling the necessary investigation because of an uncooperative attitude on the part of attorneys representing the United Farm Workers.

The Civil Rights Section of the General Investigative Division advises we have had 23 civil rights cases referred to us as a result of the situation in Kern County, about half of which are preliminary types.

It is not new or unusual for Congressman Edwards to be critical of the FBI with respect to the handling of civil rights matters. He has done so consistently and with this situation being in his home area, it is natural that he will make every effort to take advantage of the publicity potential. Congressman Edwards does not represent Kern County, however. Kern County is divided between two congressional districts. One is represented by Congressman Robert B. Mathias and the other by Congressman William M. Ketchum, both Republicans.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

August 17, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CALLAHAN  
MR. BAKER  
MR. GEBHARDT  
MR. WALSH

UNITED FAIRMILK WORKERS AND TEAMSTERS  
UNLAWFUL CONFRONTATION IN KERN COUNTY,  
CALIFORNIA, CIVIL RIGHTS MATTER

On August 23, 1973, J. Stanley Pottinger, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Civil Rights Division, phoned me. He said they have received a number of calls in his Division about violations of civil rights in the Chavez Case. In response to these, he wondered whether or not the following requests could be honored:

1. That we have Bureau Agents assigned who could, in effect, form somewhat of a police type of mission. This would be Agents who would be called into the area to do substantially the same that is being done by state officers and United States Marshals.
2. It was requested that there be a more vigorous job done in the investigation of civil rights matters. Pursuant to this, it was felt that there should be more people from outside the state assigned to the investigation. It was also felt that there would be a need for more Spanish speaking Agents on the site.

Mr. Pottinger then said he was of the opinion the first request should be denied. I told him I agreed with this and would not want to assign men for policing duties.

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection \_\_\_\_\_  
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Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_  
Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Cong. Serv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Corr. & Crim. \_\_\_\_\_  
Research \_\_\_\_\_  
Press Off. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

Insofar as the second matter is concerned, I told Mr. Pottinger

I was generally of the opinion we should not interdict any appeal for the assignment of people to a matter just because they were from a local office of the FBI.

CMK:EDM (6)

XEROX

AUG 30 1973

JAN 17 1974

TELETYPE UNIT

44-59048-2

REC 47

18 AUG 30 1973

97

Memorandum for Messrs. Callahan, Baker,  
Gebhardt, Walsh

August 27, 1973

I pointed out I, for example, had opposed a Bureau rule of many years ago that police officers who have become Agents should not be assigned to civil rights matters. This in effect spotlighted the background of an Agent and placed him in a separate and, therefore on occasion, undesirable category. In my mind the fact a man had served as a police officer should not mitigate against him and there was no reason to believe that just because of this, he would be softer or more sympathetic to the officers being investigated as possible violators.

I therefore said I would not want to give any consideration to the assignment of Agents at the site merely because they represented an "out-of-state" status.

I then pointed out, however, that I thought the addition of Spanish speaking Agents might be helpful for the obvious reason. In assigning people with this capability, we might at the same time be handling the matter of assignment of people from out of state and the two could be accomplished, in other words, by this one measure.

Mr. Pottinger said he had been informed that there were some Spanish speaking Agents available and it would not present too much of a problem. I informed him, therefore, he could speak with the Civil Rights Section and could inform them that I approved of a reasonable number of such assignments. He indicated he felt this was a very agreeable position and that he would proceed in this direction.

As noted above, I set out my feelings about the assignment of Agents to civil rights investigations. I do not know the present rules in this regard. In view of this, I would like to have a memorandum outlining such policy in order that I might possibly consider revision in accordance with my personal observations.

Very truly yours,



Clarence M. Kelley  
Director

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_  
Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_  
Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Cong. Serv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Corr. & Crm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Research \_\_\_\_\_  
Press Off. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

TO : Mr. Gebhardt

DATE: August 28, 1973

FROM : C. L. McGowan

1 - Mr. Gebhardt  
1 - Mr. McGowan  
1 - Mr. Gardner  
1 - Mr. Callahan  
1 - Mr. Baker  
1 - Mr. Walsh

SUBJECT: UNITED FARM WORKERS AND TEAMSTERS  
UNION CONFRONTATION IN KERN  
COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
CIVIL RIGHTS

Reference is made to Director Clarence M. Kelley's memorandum dated 8/27/73, which among other things, discussed the necessity of assigning some Spanish-speaking Agents to work Civil Rights cases which have arisen within the Sacramento Division as a result of the confrontations between pickets of the United Farm Workers (UFW) and the Teamsters Union.

44-59048-3

As background in this matter, on 8/17/73, a discussion was held with Mr. William L. Gardner, Deputy Chief, Criminal Section, Civil Rights Division (CRD), U. S. Department of Justice (USDJ), wherein Mr. Gardner mentioned that Mr. Robert Murphy, Chief, Criminal Section, CRD, USDJ, had received a phone call earlier that day from Democratic U. S. Congressman Donald Edwards, 10th Congressional California District, who had spent some time in the Kern County, California, area observing the strike situation involving the UFW and Teamsters Union. Mr. Gardner stated he had been informed by Mr. Murphy that Congressman Edwards stated he felt the Federal Bureau of Investigation was being hindered in its investigation of Civil Rights complaints by a lack of manpower and by a lack of Spanish-speaking Agents. On 8/17/73, a discussion was held with Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) Theodore P. Rosack, Sacramento Division, wherein ASAC Rosack stated at that time he felt he had sufficient personnel assigned to handle the investigations and that the two Spanish-speaking Agents then assigned in the area were sufficient to handle the work. He indicated that if a drastic increase in the number of cases occurred, he would reassess the manpower needs at that time.

On 8/24/73, ASAC Rosack advised he had been advised by Mr. William Briggs, Special Investigator, U. S. Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee, who indicated he was in the Kern County area to investigate the acts of violence which had

TMG:bap (7)

EX-103

CONTINUED - OVER

SEP 19 1973

ENCLOSURE

JAN 1974

99



Memorandum to Mr. Gebhardt  
RE: UNITED FARM WORKERS

occurred in connection with the UFW strike. Mr. Briggs requested ASAC Rosack meet with him on that day to discuss the FBI's posture with regard to the handling of the Civil Rights complaints. Mr. Briggs was referred to the CRD, USDJ.

On 8/24/73, Mr. William L. Gardner advised he was being sent by Assistant Attorney General J. Stanley Pottinger to the Kern County, California, area to confer with various individuals on the scene regarding the conditions and to inquire firsthand into the situation arising out of the UFW and Teamsters Union confrontations. On 8/28/73, a discussion was had with Mr. Gardner concerning his trip to the Kern County area and during this discussion, he indicated he had met with Caesar Chavez, UFW leader. During this meeting Chavez stated he felt more Spanish-speaking FBI Agents should be sent into the area to investigate the Civil Rights allegations as many involve itinerant Mexican-American farm workers who spoke only Spanish. Mr. Gardner was asked specifically if he intended to recommend in his report to Mr. Pottinger that additional FBI Agents be sent into the area to handle Civil Rights investigations. Mr. Gardner indicated that he would make no such recommendation, that he felt this assessment could only be made from within the concerned agency, and that it would be somewhat presumptuous for him to make such a recommendation. He did state, however, he personally believed that as a result of his discussion with Chavez and attorneys for the UFW, the number of Civil Rights allegations needing investigation would increase.

In referenced memorandum, Director Kelly expressed the opinion that if a determination were made additional Spanish-speaking Agents were needed to handle the Civil Rights cases, he would be agreeable to approving a reasonable number of such assignments.

ACTION: To assist in the investigation of the increasing number of Civil Rights cases occurring in the Kern County area, and to forestall any adverse public criticism, it is recommended that two Spanish-speaking Agents be temporarily assigned to the Sacramento Division from either the Los Angeles and/or San Francisco Divisions.

A separate memorandum regarding the Civil Rights policy of the Bureau is being prepared.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : MR. WALSH

DATE: 8/31/73

FROM : J. J. O'CONNELL

SUBJECT: UNITED FARM WORKERS AND TEAMSTERS  
UNION CONFRONTATION  
IN KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
CIVIL RIGHTS

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspection \_\_\_\_\_  
Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_  
Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Training \_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Cong. Serv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Corr. & Crm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Research \_\_\_\_\_  
Press Off. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

Director Kelley's memorandum of 8/27/73 discussed the necessity of assigning some Spanish-speaking Agents to work Civil Rights cases which have arisen within the Sacramento Division as a result of the confrontations between pickets of the United Farm Workers and the Teamsters Union. By memo 8/28/73 from C. L. McGowan to Mr. Gebhardt it was approved that two Spanish-speaking Agents be temporarily assigned to the Sacramento Division from either the Los Angeles and/or the San Francisco Divisions to assist in the investigation of the above cases and to forestall any adverse public criticism.

SACs, Los Angeles and San Francisco were telephonically instructed to send one Spanish-speaking Agent to Sacramento with the period of assignment indefinite at this time, and that the Agents should report on Tuesday morning, September 4, 1973. They were advised to confirm Bureau telephone call by nitel to Sacramento and the Bureau, and that any additional details should be obtained from the Sacramento Office.

## ACTION:

None. For information.

JJO:lae (6)  
1-Mr. Gebhardt  
1-Movement  
1-Mr. Jackson  
1-Mr. Hall

REC-11

EX-103

44-59648-C/1  
SEP 7 1973

PER AJAC JOHN KELLY SAN FRANCISCO  
SA [REDACTED] (SF) REPORTED  
TO SAC KERN CO 9-4-73  
JGIC 9-5-73

THREE

JAN 17 1974  
SEP 2 1973

PERS. REC. UNIT

101

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Callahan

FROM : R. E. Gebhardt

DATE: August 31, 1973

SUBJECT: CONFRONTATION BETWEEN  
UNITED FARM WORKERS AND  
TEAMSTERS UNION  
KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

1 - Mr. Callahan  
1 - Mr. Gebhardt  
1 - Mr. McGowan  
1 - Mr. Gardner  
1 - Mr. Herington  
1 - Mr. Miller

Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Admin. \_\_\_\_\_  
Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_  
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Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
Cong. Serv. \_\_\_\_\_  
Corr. & Crm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Reseach \_\_\_\_\_  
Press Off. \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

There is attached a draft prepared by the Civil Rights Division of the Department. This draft is to be used in connection with Congressional inquiries to the Department and is to be furnished to the Public Information Office of the Department of Justice.

The draft was reviewed by the General Investigative Division. It is noted that on page 1 the draft stated, "To date, we have initiated more than a dozen investigations." In this connection, we have more than two dozen investigations going on at the present time; however, not all of these were initiated by the Department of Justice.

On page 2, lines 8, 9, and 10 read, "The Bureau has also agreed that, where appropriate, Special Agents who speak Spanish will be used in such investigations." It is to be noted that we already have two Spanish-speaking Agents assisting in these investigations and the General Investigative Division has recommended that two more be sent to assist.

It was suggested that lines 8, 9, and 10 be revised to read, "The Bureau, where appropriate, is utilizing Special Agents who speak Spanish in such investigations."

These suggested changes were discussed with Assistant Attorney General Stanley Pottinger of the Civil Rights Division. He agreed to adopt the language suggested for lines 8, 9, and 10 on page 2 and also indicated he would revise page 1 to relate that more than two dozen investigations have been initiated without differentiating as to who initiated them. Mr. Pottinger expressed appreciation for the suggestions and stated this draft of his statement would be utilized for the purposes noted above.

ACTION: This is for record purposes.

Enc.  
RJG:ige  
(7)

SEP 6 1973

JAN 14 1974

102

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

# Memorandum

TO : Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: SEP 5 1973

JSP:WLG:MHJ:grh  
DJ 144-11E-NEW

FROM: JSP J. Stanley Pottinger  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division

SUBJECT: Unknown Subjects;  
Unknown Victims  
Summary Punishment  
CIVIL RIGHTS

Conversations between U.F.W. legal aid, Harriet Teller and Departmental Attorney Michael James reveal that the U.F.W. Union has possession of or access to films and still photographs showing alleged violations of 18 U.S.C. 242 committed during the course of U.F.W. - Teamster strife this summer.

Ms. Teller has agreed to make available to the F.B.I. the films, photographs and the persons who took same. *jm*

*44-59048-5*  
Please contact Ms. Teller, and giving her at least one days notice, arrange a time for agents to obtain the films and pictures and interview the persons responsible for taking same to determine where and when they were taken and what they purport to show.

REC-11  
With regard to the films, the U.F.W.U. indicates it may be able to give us a print of at least one of those films. In any case, obtain copies of all the films and photographs made available by Ms. Teller and forward those copies to this Division.

22 SEP 11 1973

EX-103

*103*

FBI

Transmit in \_\_\_\_\_ Via Airtel \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain-text or code) (Priority)

TO: SAC, **Sacramento** 44-59048-5

Date 9/6/73

From: Director, FBI

**REC-11**

1 - Mr. Gardner

**CONFRONTATION BETWEEN UNITED  
FARM WORKERS AND  
TEAMSTERS UNION  
KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
CIVIL RIGHTS  
OO: SC**

**EX-103**

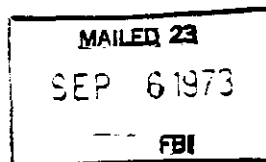
Enclosed are two copies of a self-explanatory Departmental letter dated **9/5/73.**

Complete the requested investigation in accordance with the provisions of  
Section 27, Volume II, Manual of Instructions, and surep within **14**  
days of the receipt of this communication.

State in the first paragraph of the details of your report that it contains the results  
of a xx limited investigation and underscore the word xx limited  
preliminary preliminary

Advise xx all persons interviewed  
xx appropriate officials at the outset that this investigation is being conducted  
at the specific request of the U. S. Department of Justice.

Remarks:



Enc. (2)

(Do not type below this line.)

TMG:bap (4)

NOTE: CRD, USDJ, requests UFW legal aid Harriet  
Teller be contacted for purpose of obtaining  
photographs and films depicting Civil Rights  
violations.

JAN 17 1974

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

104

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

# Memorandum

TO : Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM : *HEP* Henry E. Petersen  
Assistant Attorney General  
Criminal Division

DATE: September 14, 1973

HEP:FW:RHM:fep

SUBJECT: Request for Copies of Investigative Reports

The Criminal Division understands that Assistant Attorney General J. Stanley Pottinger of the Civil Rights Division has recently requested the Bureau to investigate criminal Civil Rights matters in Kern County, California, arising out of the dispute between the United Farm Workers of America and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. Since certain of these matters may involve violations of criminal statutes over which the Criminal Division has jurisdiction, the Bureau is requested to forward to the Criminal Division copies of all investigative reports pertaining to the following matters:

1. Violence at the Cavokovich Ranch in Kern County, California.. The Civil Rights Division requested an investigation into this matter on August 13, 1973 under the caption: UNSUBS, Kern County Deputies, Teamsters: Frank Quintana et al, victims;
2. Violence at the Guimarra Ranch, Kern County, California. The Civil Rights Division requested an investigation into this matter on August 22, 1973 under the caption: F.N.U. Cooper, Kern County Sheriff's Deputies: Lidia B. Manriques, victim; and
3. Violence at the Nalbandian Ranch in Kern County, California. The Civil Rights Division requested an investigation into this matter on August 30, 1973 under the caption: UNSUBS, Kern County Sheriff's Deputies: Erlene Cuerto, victim.

44-59048-6

EX-104

REC 44

5 SEP 17 1973

XEROX  
SEP 27 1973

JAN 9 1974

105

EXP. PROC.  
SEP 17 1973

AIRTEL

9/19/73

EX-104  
MGT  
MEG 44  
TO: SAC, Sacramento

44-59048-6

From: Director, FBI

44-57102-14

1

b7c

CONFRONTATION BETWEEN UNITED FARM WORKERS  
AND TEAMSTERS UNION,  
KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
CIVIL RIGHTS

United FARM WORKERS AND TEAMSTERS UNION

CONFRONTATION IN KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

ReButelcall 9/17/73.

The enclosed Departmental letter dated 9/14/73, confirms reButelcall, wherein it was requested you submit an extra copy of any report prepared in each of the cases cited in the enclosed letter.

Enclosure

57964-1  
44-57965-1  
44-57102

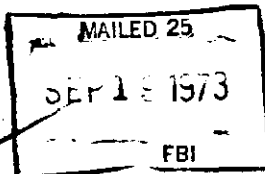
Recorded Copy Filed in  
44-57102

- Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_
- Asst. Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_
- Admin. \_\_\_\_\_
- Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_
- Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_
- Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_
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- Inspection \_\_\_\_\_
- Intell. \_\_\_\_\_
- Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_
- Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_
- Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Training \_\_\_\_\_
- Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_
- Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

b7c

cap (4)

4 OCT 1 1973



SEP 9 1974

XEROX

SEP 27 1973

106

JAN 17 1974

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

(Rev. 1-7-72)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SACRAMENTO</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SACRAMENTO</b>	DATE <b>9/24/73</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>9/11/73 - 9/24/73</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>CONFRONTATION BETWEEN UNITED FARM WORKERS AND TEAMSTERS UNION, KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA [REDACTED] b7c</b>	TYPED BY <b>kep</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>CR</b>	<b>11 10</b>

## REFERENCE:

Bureau airtel to Sacramento, 9/6/73.

- P -

## LEADS:

### SACRAMENTO

At Keene, California: Will continue efforts to contact [REDACTED] Legal Aide, UFWU, and obtain photos and film which she previously agreed to make available to Departmental Attorney MICHAEL JAMES.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN: PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		
CONVIC.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES					
APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: 1-Bureau 1-AUSA, Fresno 2-Sacramento(44-579)						44-57102-15		REC-45 EX-103	
						6 SEP 26 1973			
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations			
Agency	144 CRD								
Request Recd.									
Date Fwd.	9-28-73								
How Fwd.	2-66								
By	b7c [REDACTED]								
OCT 5 1973						DATA PROC			
1 AM 9 7 10 21						285701813 107			

- A\* -



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1-AUSA, Fresno, California

Report of: SA [REDACTED]  
Date: September 24, 1973

Office: Sacramento b7c

Field Office File #: 44-579

Bureau File #:

Title: CONFRONTATION BETWEEN UNITED  
FARM WORKERS AND TEAMSTERS UNION,  
KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS

Synopsis: Continuous efforts to contact [REDACTED] b7c  
Legal Aide, United Farm Workers Union, Keene, California,  
to obtain photographs and film negative to date.

- P -

DETAILS:

The following contains the results of a limited investigation.

On September 11, 1973, [REDACTED] Attorney, Legal Department, United Farm Workers Union (UFWU), Keene, California, was contacted in an effort to locate [REDACTED] [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] was gone for a few days and should return in approximately 10 days. [REDACTED] was advised that an appointment with [REDACTED] was needed in an effort to obtain photographs and film which she had previously mentioned she would provide to MICHAEL JAMES of the Department of Justice. [REDACTED] advised that it would be better to take this matter up with [REDACTED] on her return to Keene. b7c

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SC 44-579

On September 12, 1973, [REDACTED] Legal Department, UFWU, Keene, California, was contacted in the absence of [REDACTED] in an effort to obtain photographs and film which she had previously agreed to provide to Departmental Attorney MICHAEL JAMES. [REDACTED] advised he is not acquainted with the circumstances of the request and advised that [REDACTED] is currently in New York and probably will not return to Keene, California, prior to September 20, 1973.

On September 19, 1973, [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] had returned to Keene, but was not in at present. A request was left for her to telephonically contact the FBI in Bakersfield as soon as practical. [REDACTED] did not return the telephone call that day and efforts were made to contact her on September 20, 1973. These efforts were also unsuccessful.

On September 21, 1973, inquiry at UFWU headquarters in Keene disclosed that [REDACTED] was attending a UFWU convention in Fresno, California, for the next three days, however, an exact point of contact could not be determined.

In the morning hours of September 24, 1973, an inquiry at UFWU, Keene, disclosed that [REDACTED] was not in and presumably was still in Fresno.

In the afternoon hours of September 24, 1973, an additional inquiry at UFWU, Keene, determined that no one would be in the Legal Office in Keene on September 24, 1973, however, they were expected to be back in operation on September 25, 1973.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE <b>SACRAMENTO</b>	OFFICE OF ORIGIN <b>SACRAMENTO</b>	DATE <b>OCT 2 1973</b>	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD <b>8/30/73 - 9/25/73</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>Confrontation Between United Farm Workers and Teamsters Union, Kern County, California</b>		REPORT MADE BY <b>SA [REDACTED] b7c</b>	TYPED BY <b>alt</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>CIVIL RIGHTS</b>	

REFERENCE: Sacramento report of SA [REDACTED] 9/24/73.

- .C. -

ENCLOSURES:

TO THE BUREAU: Two sets of photographs consisting of seven photographs each.

EXP. PROC.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES			
								PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
								PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT  
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE:

- ③ - Bureau (Enc. 14) ENCLOSURE  
1 - AUSA, Fresno  
1 - Sacramento (44-579)

44-579048-8 REC 27

5 OCT 4 1973

EX-104

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Agency	14 CRD with 7 photos
Request Recd.	
Date Fwd.	10-9-73
How Fwd.	10-6-73 b7c

Notations

"ENCLOSURE ATTACHED"

DATA PROC

JAN 17 1974

55 OCT 25 1973

- A\* -  
COVER PAGE

110

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - AUSA, Fresno

Report of: SA [REDACTED] b7c

Date: OCT 2 1973

Office: Sacramento

Field Office File #: 44-579

Bureau File #:

Title: CONFRONTATION BETWEEN UNITED FARM WORKERS  
AND TEAMSTERS UNION, KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS

Synopsis: [REDACTED] contacted at UFWU, Headquarters, Keene, California, 9/25/73, states she did not agree with Departmental Attorney to provide motion picture film to FBI, but only to representatives from Department Attorney MICHAEL JAMES' office. One additional set of still photographs obtained from [REDACTED] b7c

- C -

ENCLOSURES:

TO THE ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY, FRESNO, CALIFORNIA: One set of photographs consisting of seven photographs.

DETAILS:

On September 25, 1973, [REDACTED] United Farm Workers Union (UFWU), Keene, California, telephonically contacted the FBI at Bakersfield, California, in response to an earlier telephone call. b7c

[REDACTED] was advised of the department's request to contact her and obtain photographs and films taken during the UFWU-Teamster strife this summer, in accordance with an arrangement made between [REDACTED] and Department Attorney MICHAEL JAMES. b7c

SC 44-579

[REDACTED] advised her agreement with MICHAEL JAMES was that a representative from the office of JAMES would come to Keene and secure the motion picture film. She advised she would not provide the motion picture film to the FBI because this was not her agreement with JAMES. b7c

[REDACTED] advised she has already provided all still photographs in her possession to the FBI. b7c

[REDACTED] advised that the photograph which she left at the FBI office in Bakersfield, California, on August 30, 1973, were taken by [REDACTED] who is no longer working for them. She advised she does not know his whereabouts, but will advise FBI in Bakersfield if she can determine his location. b7c b7c

[REDACTED] was advised that the FBI would like to interview him regarding the taking of these photographs if he can be located. b7c

[REDACTED] explained that these seven photographs were taken during the incident at Guimara Ranch, Panama Road and Fairfax Road on August 7, 1973. She explained that these pictures show the unnecessary force used by the Kern County Sheriff's Department in arresting UFWU pickets. b7c

She advised the only person in these seven photographs that she was able to identify is [REDACTED] who has blood on her shirt. b7c

If [REDACTED] provides the location of [REDACTED] he will be interviewed and Department of Justice provided a report of the results. b7c

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 9/13/73

**[REDACTED], United Farm Workers Union, Keene, California, left a group of seven photographs in the Bakersfield, California, Resident Agency of the FBI. She left a note on the photographs as follows: "Incident at Giumarra Ranch, August 7, 1973, Panama & Fairfax, 7 photographs." The photographs were not further identified.**

b7c

- 3\* -

Interviewed on 8/30/73 at Bakersfield, California File # SC 44-579  
by SA [REDACTED] alt b7c Date dictated 9/6/73







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119





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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 31 1973

TELETYPE

Assoc. Dir.	
Asst. Dir.	
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Legal Coun.	
Cong. Serv.	
Corr. & Crm.	
Research	
Press Off.	
Telephone Rm.	
Director Sec'y	

NR 019 LA PLAIN

4:27PM NITEL 8-31-73 BMK

TO DIRECTOR

SACRAMENTO

FROM LOS ANGELES (44- ) 1P

UNITED FARM WORKERS AND TEAMSTERS UNIONS CONFRONTATION  
IN KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, CIVIL RIGHTS.

REBUTELCAL TO LOS ANGELES, 8-31-73 AND LOS ANGELES  
TELICAL TO SACRAMENTO, 8-31-73.

PURSUANT TO REQUEST OF BUREAU SA [REDACTED]  
A SPANISH SPEAKING AGENT, WILL REPORT TO BAKERSFIELD,  
CALIFORNIA, ON TUESDAY, 9-4-73. TO ASSIST IN THIS MATTER  
SA [REDACTED] WILL BE DRIVING LOS ANGELES BUREAU CAR.

END

REC-18

EX-110

12 NOV 25 1974

F372

00 DEC 09 1974

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

# Memorandum

to : Clarence Kelley  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: 27 NOV 1973

FROM: J. Stanley Pottinger  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division

**SUBJECT:**

Attached hereto is a copy of a letter I received from Congressman Don Edwards, which I thought may be of interest to you.

EXP. PROC.  
NOV 28 1953

44-59048-9

REC-8

ENCLOSURE

122

DON EDWARDS  
CALIFORNIA

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

September 17, 1973

COMMITTEE ON  
JUDICIARY

CHAIRMAN  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
CIVIL RIGHTS

COMMITTEE ON  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. J. Stanley Pottinger  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C. 20530

Dear Mr. Pottinger:

Thank you very much for your letter of September 4 describing work being done by the Department of Justice concerning possible violations of federal criminal law in activities involving the United Farm Workers in California. I sincerely appreciate the information you provided me.

I am sure you know that I am concerned with the situation in California, not only what has taken place during the past month but also the serious implications for the future. I spent several days in the Bakersfield-Delano area during the height of the tensions.

I observed the good work being done by the Community Relations Service, observed the United Farm Workers picketing at several vineyards, talked to local police and press, and attended the two funerals.

As explained to Mr. Murphy, I was disappointed not to find Chicano Special Agents in the Bakersfield F.B.I. office. The Daifullah funeral was thought important enough by the Catholic Church for Bishop Flores of San Antonio to travel at church expense to California. The only Agent I saw at the Bakersfield F.B.I. office taking statements in Spanish was not, in the opinion of my Chicano assistant, appropriately fluent in Spanish.

For many years in civil rights cases a major criticism of Justice Department involvement has been the use of locally assigned F.B.I. Agents to investigate allegations of criminal conduct of local police. From my experience in the Bureau I know that a harmonious relationship with the local police is essential to doing a good job for the F.B.I. This has always resulted in unenthusiastic investigations by the locally assigned Agents.

ENCLOSURE

298  
123



September 17, 1973

assigned Agents and a strong feeling on the part of minority citizens that the F.B.I. is in league with the police. That this problem is well understood by the F.B.I. was made clear a few months ago by the F.B.I. Acting Director who said his policy in these civil rights cases would always be to send in outside Agents. Perhaps this was done and is being done in Fresno-Tulare-Kern Counties, but that is not the appearance of what is being done, and sometimes appearance is as important as action.

My last comment is to again stress the importance of these cases you are investigating. I am personally convinced that widespread violations of Federal criminal law took place and will take place again if the Justice Department does not face up to its responsibilities, unpleasant as they may appear. As I told Mr. Murphy on the telephone from Delano, lives could have been saved in the early sixties if Bull Connor had been arrested for his clear violations of Federal law. The same kind of illegal runaway police activity is taking place in California today, and I sincerely believe the Justice Department has an important and responsible role to fill.

The purpose of this letter is not, however, to give my personal views on the farm situation in California but is to thank you for your courteous communication and to express my appreciation for your keeping the Subcommittee informed.

Sincerely,

*Don Edwards*

Member of Congress

DE:dl

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11/29/73

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

The attached concerns letter from Congressman Don Edwards (Dem. - Calif.) dated 9/17/73, directed to Mr. J. Stanley Pottinger, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, U. S. Department of Justice, which was forwarded by Mr. Pottinger to this Bureau by memorandum dated 11/27/73. In his letter Congressman Edwards expresses disappointment of the lack of Spanish-speaking Agents assigned to work Civil Rights cases in the Kern Co., California, area which arose out of confrontations between members of the United Farm Workers (UFW) and the Teamsters Union.

It is noted Congressman Edwards makes reference to a visit he made to our Bakersfield, California, Resident Agency, during late 8/73, and as a result of this visit he made his observations. At that time the Sacramento Division had two Spanish-speaking Agents assigned to assist in receiving Civil Rights complaints from UFW members. Constant contact was maintained with the Sacramento Division regarding the situation that existed in the Kern Co. area and as the number of Civil Rights allegations received increased, two additional Spanish-speaking Agents from other field divisions were temporarily assigned to the Sacramento Division to further assist the handling of these complaints. Both the Sacramento Division and FBIHQ felt the number of Spanish-speaking Agents assigned to that area was sufficient to handle the number of cases received. In view of this, it is felt no constructive purpose would be served in contacting Congressman Edwards with regard to the personal opinions he expresses in his letter of 9/17/73.

TMG/pwl